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PAGE 01 STATE 146812

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JUL 24, 1973 FROM GENEVA REPEATED TO YOU:

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SUBJ LOS: MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 23

1. SUMMARY. SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMEN GAVE BRIEF REPORT
ON LAST WEEK'S WORK IN SUBCOMMITTEES. A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS
PROTESTED FRENCH NUCLEAR WEAPONS TEST IN PACIFIC. END SUMMARY.

2. THREE SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMEN GAVE BRIEF SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENTS
DURING PREVIOUS WEEK. SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN I ENGO STATED HIS
SUBCOMMITTEE HAD ARRIVED AT A CRUCIAL POINT AND IT IS TIME TO
TAKE STOCK OF ITS WORK. HE SADI IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO ACCEPT
ONLY COLLECTION OF VARIOUS PROPOSALS IN LIEU OF ACTUAL PROGRESS
IN PREPARATIONS. HE SAID HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT PRESENT
METHOD OW WORK WOULD LEAD TO SUCCESS UNLESS IT IS WOMEWHAT
MODIFIED, BUT HE WAS NOT PESSIMISTIC ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF ACHIEV-
ING SUCCESS. HE ANNOUNCED HE WOULD MAKE CERTAIN PROPOSALS ON
PROGRAM OF WORK FOR SUBCOMMITTEE. CHAIRMEN OF SUBCOMMITTEES II
AND III GAVE GENERAL OVERVIEW OF WORK CARRIED OUT. SUBCOMMITTEE
II CHAIRMAN GALINDO POHL EXPRESSED HOPE FOR REDUCTION IN NUMBER
OF PROPOSALS AND ALTERNATE FORMULATIONS AND SAID THAT THESE
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PAGE 02 STATE 146812

COULD BE REDUCED THROUGH CONSULTATIONS.

3. CHILE REP (SANTA CRUZ) MADE LONG INTERVENTION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT IN RECENT DECADES AND TRANSCEND MERE LEGAL TECHNICALITIES. WHAT IS AT STAKE, HE ASSERTED, IS FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS. IF CONFERENCE IS ABLE TO ACHIEVE PERMANENT AGREEMENTS, THERE WILL NOT ONLY BE PEACE IN THE OCEANS BUT OTHER AREAS OF NEGOTIATION WILL BE AIDED. SANTA CRUZ ANNOUNCED THAT CHILE IS PRESSING AHEAD WITH ARRANGEMENTS TO ASSURE THAT LOS CONFERENCE IN SANTIAGO IS AT LEAST AS WELL ORGANIZED AS UNCTAD II. HE SAID THERE WOULD BE FACILITIES FOR 2,000 DELEGATES AND THERE WOULD BE FACILITIES FOR DELEGATES WITH NO RESIDENT MISSIONS IN SANTIAGO. HE STRONGLY URGED THAT CONFERENCE KEEP TO SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED BY UN IN ORDER TO AVOID INCONVENIENCE TO HOST GOVERNMENT AND TO UN AND SO AS NOT TO JEOPARDIZE MOMENTUM OF NEGOTIATIONS. HE PROMISED THAT CHILE WOULD ADHERE STRICTLY TO TIMETABLE AS FAR AS ITS PREPARATIONS AS THE HOST ARE CONCERNED. HE ASSERTED THAT IN ORDER TO ADHERE TO TIMETABLE THERE WOULD BE MUCH HARD WORK AND POLITICAL NEGOTIATION IN WEEKS AHEAD. HE SUGGESTED THAT A POLITICAL SCHEME FOR THE OVERALL SOLUTION OF LOS ISSUES BE AGREED UPON. HE SAID A PACKAGE DEAL COULD BE PRESENTED IN A FEW TREATY ARTICLES WHICH COULD SERVE AS BASIS FOR SERIES OF OPTIONS TO PRESENT TO CONFERENCE. HE URGED THAT COMMITTEE MAKE GENUINE EFFORT TO REACH SUCH AN AGREEMENT. HE WARNED THAT IF SUBCOMMITTEES ONLY PRODUCE DOCUMENTS WHICH REFLECT ALL VIEWS PROPOSED, THEN THE COMMITTEE WILL HAVE ACHIEVED NOTHING.

4. SANTA CRUZ STRESSED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AS IMPORTANT NEW ELEMENT IN NEGOTIATIONS AND THEN REFERRED TO TWO RECENT EVENTS: THE 22 JULY FRENCH NUCLEAR WEAPONS TEST IN PACIFIC AND THE 9 JUNE OIL SPILL FROM A GROUNDING LIBERIAN TANKER OFF CHILE. HE NOTED THAT CHILE HAD PROTESTED FRENCH TESTING. HE STATED THAT OIL SPILL OFF CHILE DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR OBJECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES AND ARGUED THAT PROBLEM MUST BE RESOLVED AT LOS CONFERENCE, NOT IN SPECIALIZED FORA WHICH ARE NOT SUFFICIENTLY POLITICALLY REPRESENTATIVE.

5. REMAINDER OF MAIN COMMITTEE SESSION DEVOTED TO EXPRESSION OF PROTESTS AGAINST FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTING BY NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, FIJI, JAPAN, CANADA, PERU, INDONESIA, LIBERIA, SWEDEN, NORWAY,
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PAGE 03 STATE 146812

INDIA, MEXICO, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES, AND SINGAPORE. MOST EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN AT ATMOSPHERIC TESTING AND DISREGARD BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PROTESTS AS WELL AS INDIFFERENCE TO ICJ RULING. INDONESIA, SWEDEN, MEXICO, ECUADOR AND SINGAPORE STRESSED THEIR OBJECTION TO ALL FORMS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING, NOT JUST ATMOSPHERIC.

6. FRENCH REP MADE BRIEF REJOINDER STATING THAT THERE WAS NO

EVIDENCE THAT TESTS ENDANGERED ENVIRONMENT AND REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO RECENT FRENCH WHITE PAPER ON SUBJECT. HE DENIED FRANCE IS INDIFFERENT TO WORLD OPINION BUT STRESSED THAT HE THOUGHT THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED WERE NOT LEGITIMATE OR WELL FOUNDED. HE SAID ICJ HAS NO COMPETENCE ON THIS SUBJECT AND RULING NOT BINDING. HE CONCLUDED BY EXPRESSING SYMPATHY WITH CHILE IN REGARD TO OIL SPILL, ASSERTED FRANCE IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED WITH THIS PROBLEM AND IS LOOKING FOR A SOLUTION AND HOPES TO BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH A SOLUTION IN NEAREST FUTURE. NEW ZEALAND REP RESPONDED BY REJECTING FRENCH ARGUMENTS.

7. LIBERIA, AFTER ASSOCIATING ITSELF WITH PROTESTS AGAINST FRENCH TESTING, SAID THAT GROUNDING OF LIBERIAN SHIP AND RESULTANT OIL SPILL IS OF CONCERN TO GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA AND LIBERIA IS WILLING TO DO ANYTHING WITHIN ITS POWER IN THIS AREA. HE ASSERTED IT IS NOT LIBERIAN POLICY TO TURN A BLIND EYE TO LIBERIAN SHIPS WHICH CAUSE POLLUTION AND LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT WILL UNDERTAKE AN INVESTIGATION OF THIS INCIDENT AND ENSURE THAT ANYONE RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF APPLICABLE REGULATIONS WILL BE SUITABLY DEALT WITH.

8. PRC REP MADE BRIEF INTERVENTION RESPONDING TO STATEMENT BY NEW ZEALAND REFERRING TO CHINESE NUCLEAR TESTING. HE SAID CHINA FAVORS COMPLETE PROHIBITION AND DESTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE ASSERTED CHINA IS COMPELLED TO CARRY OUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS FOR SELF DEFENSE AND TO BREAK NUCLEAR MONOPOLY OF SUPER POWERS. HE STRESSED CHINA HAS CARRIED OUT ONLY FEW TESTS AND THESE HAVE BEEN IN INTERIOR OF CHINA. ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS WERE TAKEN, HE SAID, AND NO DAMAGE OCCURRED. HE RECALLED THAT CHINA HAS STATED THAT IT WILL NOT BE THE FIRST TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND IT IS PREPARED AT ANY TIME TO STOP NUCLEAR TESTING BUT ONLY WHEN ALL NUCLEAR POWERS HAVE PROHIBITED AND DESTROYED NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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PAGE 04 STATE 146812

9. CHAIRMAN OBTAINED AGREEMENT FROM SEABED COMMITTEE TO HAVE 3-DAY WEEKEND AUGUST 3, 4 AND 5. BASSIN UNQUOTE ROGERS

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